

July 7, 2019  
RIGHT ON THE MONEY - Part 1  
"Understanding Money"

Money has great power for good in our lives.

Money has great power for bad in our lives.

**1 Timothy 6:10** (NLT): "For the *love* of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows." (*emphasis added*)

**King Solomon:** "Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!" (**Ecclesiastes 5:10** NLT)

Problems can arise when we ask money to do too much.

Steward - someone who manages the resources of another

## BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR MONEY MANAGEMENT

### 1. GOD OWNS IT ALL.

**Matthew 25:14** (ESV): "'For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.'"

**Genesis 1:1** (ESV): "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

**Psalms 24:1** (NLT): "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him."

**Deuteronomy 8:17-18** (NIV): "'<sup>17</sup>You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' <sup>18</sup>But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth...'"

When God looks at our lives, He's not looking at us as owners using *our* money but as servants using His money.

Three Implications Of This Principle:

A. God has the right to whatever He wants whenever He wants it.

B. Every giving *and* spending decision is a spiritual decision.

C. You can't fake stewardship.

## 2. WE ARE IN A GROWTH PROCESS.

**Matthew 25:21** (ESV): “His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.””

### God Uses Money And Material Possessions Three Ways:

- Tool
- Test

**Jesus:** “<sup>11</sup>And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? <sup>12</sup>And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? (**Luke 16:11-12** NLT)

- Testimony

**Jesus:** “<sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the earth.... <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world....” (**Matthew 5:13-14** ESV)

**God uses the Christian’s use of resources and attitude toward wealth as a testimony to the world of the peace and contentment He offers followers of Jesus.**

## 3. THE AMOUNT IS NOT IMPORTANT.

**Matthew 25:23** (ESV): “His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.””

**The attitude He wants us to develop, whatever we have, little or much, remains the same – trust in God so that we’re content.**

## 4. FAITH REQUIRES ACTION.

**Matthew 25:24-30** (ESV): “<sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, “Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.” <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, “You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So

take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'''

**The degree to which we agree with these biblical principles and trust God to be faithful is shown not just by what we say but by what we do!**

**He's less interested in *how much* we have than in how we use what we do have, what He has given to us in the first place.**

**Jesus:** "'...Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.'" (**Luke 16:9** NLT)

**Biblical money management and its resulting financial freedom is an attitude, not an amount.**

**Next Week: Spending Money**

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